



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

For The Week Ending July 6, 2003

Excellent week for Field Work: There were 6 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture was rated as 4 percent very short, 19 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus. Principal farms activities included planting soybeans, and vegetables; making haylage, baylage and dry hay; spraying herbicides; spreading manure; spreading lime and fertilizer; and caring for livestock.

Crops: Another week of sunshine and farmers being able to get field work done. Farmers continued to make as much hay as possible before it gets too old. Corn height increased to 26 inches, 9 inches behind last year and 8 inches behind the five-year average. The condition of corn was rated 4 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Soybeans planted was rated 84 percent, 14 percent behind last year, and 13 percent behind the five-year average. Soybeans emerged increased to 72 percent, 22 and 23 percent behind last year and the five-year average, respectively. Soybean condition was rated 3 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 54 percent good and 10 percent excellent. The percent of winter wheat turning yellow was rated 82 percent, 16 percent behind last year and 13 percent behind the five-year average. The percent of wheat ripe was rated 11 percent, 69 percent behind last year and 52 percent behind the five-year average. Wheat condition was rated 3 percent very poor, 8 percent poor, 43 percent fair, 36 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. The percent of barley turning yellow is 100 percent, even with last year and 1 percent ahead of the five-year average. The percent of barley ripe was rated 93 percent, 3 percent behind last year and 2 percent ahead of the five-year average. The percent of barley harvested jumped to 80 percent, 6 and 3 percent behind last year and the five-year average, respectively. Oats headed increased to 82 percent, 4 percent behind last year and 7 percent behind the five-year average. Oats turning yellow is rated 5 percent, 35 percent behind last year and 32 percent behind the five-year average. Oat condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 50 percent good and 6 percent excellent. Tobacco transplanted was rated 100 percent, equal to last year and the five year average. Hay conditions continued to be good. The quality of hay made was rated 2 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 37 percent good and 14 percent excellent. Ninety percent of the first cutting of alfalfa was completed, 5 percent behind last year and the five-year average. Twenty-three percent of the second cutting of alfalfa was completed, 33 percent behind last year and 25 percent behind the five year average. Seventy-two percent of the first cutting of timothy clover was completed, 12 percent behind last year and 9 percent behind the five year average.

Livestock: The sun continued to shine for most of the week which has the pasture conditions favorable. One percent of the pasture land was rated very poor, 9 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 47 percent good and 15 percent excellent.

Fruit & Vegetable: Weather conditions continue to be favorable for fruit tree growth. Peach tree conditions were rated at 6 percent fair, and 94 percent good. Apple tree conditions were rated at 8 percent fair, 91 percent good and 1 percent excellent.

U.S. As Of June 23, 2003: Highlights: Favorable weather reduced excessively wet field conditions in the Ohio Valley and along the Atlantic Coast. Crop conditions improved except where excessive wetness persisted due to poor drainage. Topsoil moisture levels remained above normal for all reporting States except New Mexico. Thunderstorms during the first part of the week kept farmers out of the field in the northern Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the Corn Belt and Great Plains. Scattered showers and heavy thunderstorms continued in the central Great Plains. Below-normal temperatures delayed crop development slightly in the northern Great Plains and northern Rocky Mountains. In the southern Delta States, excessive rainfall hampered fieldwork and saturated the topsoil. The Tennessee Valley experienced sunshine which helped dry fields from last month flooding. The Southwest remained seasonably hot and dry throughout the week. Drier conditions across the central and eastern Corn Belt promoted crop development and fieldwork activities. Corn: Five percent of the acreage was at or beyond the silking stage, equal to last year's pace and the 5-year average for this date. Silking in the Corn Belt was mostly confined to the lower Missouri and Ohio River Valleys, where 16 percent of the Kentucky acreage and 20 percent of the Missouri acreage was at or beyond the silking stage. Despite the wet spring and delayed planting, over one-half of Tennessee's crop was at or beyond the silking stage. Crop conditions in Kentucky and Pennsylvania improved substantially due to hot, drier weather. Ninety-six percent of acreage was planted and 93 percent was emerged. Emergence of the crop in the eastern Corn Belt, Delta, and along the Atlantic Coastal Plain lagged behind the 5-year average. Winter Wheat: Forty-seven percent of the crop was harvested, compared to 57 percent last year and the 5-year average of 50 percent. The barley crop was 42 percent headed, compared to 25 percent last year and 34 percent for the 5-year average. Sixty-five percent of the oat crop was headed, 9 percentage points and 3 ahead of last year and the 5-year average, respectively. In Ohio and Pennsylvania, heading was behind normal as a result of delayed planting early in the season.

Weather Data For Week Ending July 6, 2003

| STATION | LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY | | | | | | April 1, 03 - July 6, 03 | | | | | GDD BASE 40F TOT |
|-----------------|---------------------------|----|-----|---------------|-------|------|--------------------------|-------|--------------|-------|------|---------------------------|
| | TEMPERATURE | | | PRECIPITATION | | | PRECIPITATION | | GDD BASE 50F | | | |
| | HI | LO | AVG | DFN | TOTAL | DAYS | TOTAL | DFN | DAYS | TOTAL | DFN | |
| NORTHWEST | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Erie | 87 | 60 | 74 | +5 | 0.36 | 1 | 9.93 | -1.55 | 39 | 880 | -5 | 1671 |
| Franklin_AG | 86 | 53 | 71 | +2 | 0.88 | 6 | 13.65 | +0.68 | 61 | 805 | -46 | 1642 |
| Meadville | 85 | 57 | 72 | +5 | 0.44 | 6 | 12.27 | -0.24 | 47 | 814 | +47 | 1639 |
| Mercer | 85 | 46 | 68 | -1 | 1.66 | 3 | 13.47 | +0.81 | 41 | 693 | -156 | 1505 |
| Springboro | 87 | 56 | 72 | +3 | 0.32 | 3 | 14.47 | +3.32 | 50 | 747 | -153 | 1533 |
| Warren | 87 | 52 | 71 | +3 | 1.03 | 2 | 12.41 | -0.86 | 46 | 776 | -46 | 1582 |
| NORTH CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bradford_Region | 84 | 44 | 67 | +3 | 0.54 | 4 | 11.97 | -1.46 | 50 | 604 | +30 | 1365 |
| Emporium | 89 | 52 | 71 | +6 | 0.11 | 2 | 11.18 | -2.29 | 51 | 825 | +173 | 1665 |
| Kane | 81 | 43 | 63 | -1 | 0.16 | 2 | 11.70 | -1.81 | 43 | 388 | -178 | 1061 |
| Laporte | 84 | 53 | 71 | +2 | 0.02 | 1 | 12.91 | +0.22 | 49 | 676 | -172 | 1437 |
| Lock_Haven | 92 | 57 | 73 | +4 | 0.00 | 0 | 11.51 | -0.75 | 49 | 970 | +52 | 1831 |
| Port_Allegany | 86 | 48 | 68 | +4 | 0.24 | 2 | 9.77 | -3.27 | 42 | 638 | -25 | 1400 |
| Renovo | 89 | 57 | 73 | +3 | 0.07 | 1 | 11.43 | -0.83 | 52 | 914 | -4 | 1770 |
| Ridgway | 86 | 51 | 69 | +4 | 0.50 | 3 | 10.60 | -2.87 | 45 | 655 | +3 | 1457 |
| Stevenson_Dam | 88 | 55 | 71 | +6 | 0.15 | 2 | 12.70 | -0.77 | 56 | 802 | +150 | 1640 |
| Towanda | 89 | 52 | 72 | +4 | 0.33 | 3 | 13.16 | +2.63 | 59 | 771 | -91 | 1576 |
| Wellsboro | 85 | 50 | 69 | +5 | 0.03 | 1 | 11.53 | +1.01 | 46 | 647 | +44 | 1409 |
| Williamsport_AP | 92 | 58 | 74 | +4 | 0.01 | 1 | 12.45 | +0.20 | 48 | 1006 | -30 | 1867 |
| NORTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hawley | 87 | 52 | 70 | +5 | 0.00 | 0 | 11.95 | +0.08 | 40 | 662 | -40 | 1466 |
| Wilkes-Barre/Sc | 90 | 56 | 75 | +4 | 0.01 | 1 | 13.52 | +2.14 | 46 | 943 | -29 | 1777 |
| Susquehanna | 92 | 53 | 74 | +9 | 0.68 | 2 | 15.40 | +2.84 | 42 | 876 | +207 | 1688 |
| WEST CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Butler | 86 | 54 | 71 | +2 | 1.06 | 3 | 13.58 | +1.10 | 53 | 905 | +10 | 1774 |
| New_Castle | 90 | 53 | 72 | +3 | 2.04 | 4 | 14.70 | +3.26 | 43 | 968 | +70 | 1844 |
| Slippery_Rock | 88 | 52 | 72 | +5 | 2.01 | 5 | 15.32 | +3.12 | 50 | 922 | +116 | 1790 |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Altoona/Blair_C | 86 | 52 | 72 | +2 | 0.00 | 0 | 11.94 | +0.41 | 57 | 915 | -71 | 1756 |
| Du_Bois | 83 | 49 | 69 | +1 | 0.49 | 4 | 12.22 | -0.65 | 54 | 783 | -48 | 1602 |
| Lewistown | 91 | 56 | 74 | +3 | 0.00 | 0 | 11.71 | -0.50 | 45 | 1045 | -43 | 1916 |
| Middletown | 93 | 61 | 77 | +3 | 0.65 | 3 | 15.47 | +3.40 | 53 | 1131 | -109 | 2007 |
| Prince_Gallitzi | 86 | 47 | 70 | +4 | 0.21 | 2 | 12.54 | -1.79 | 48 | 817 | +63 | 1630 |
| Selinsgrove | 93 | 58 | 74 | +4 | 0.00 | 0 | 10.51 | -1.87 | 49 | 936 | -65 | 1791 |
| State_College_P | 88 | 59 | 74 | +5 | 0.00 | 0 | 12.15 | +0.81 | 52 | 984 | +16 | 1838 |
| EAST CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allentown-Bethl | 92 | 57 | 76 | +3 | 0.00 | 0 | 12.94 | +0.69 | 50 | 1033 | -87 | 1891 |
| Lehighon | 91 | 56 | 74 | +2 | 0.00 | 0 | 15.86 | +3.59 | 54 | 889 | -180 | 1726 |
| Matamoras | 90 | 55 | 72 | +2 | 0.13 | 2 | 13.14 | +0.17 | 48 | 733 | -223 | 1534 |
| Tobyhanna | 86 | 56 | 73 | +9 | 0.06 | 2 | 17.43 | +3.81 | 50 | 925 | +326 | 1763 |
| SOUTHWEST | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pittsburgh/Alle | 87 | 59 | 74 | +4 | 0.34 | 3 | 14.13 | +2.17 | 52 | 1148 | +159 | 2050 |
| Derry | 86 | 56 | 72 | +3 | 1.63 | 3 | 15.08 | +3.06 | 48 | 974 | +64 | 1829 |
| Meyersdale | 83 | 52 | 68 | -1 | 0.19 | 3 | 16.48 | +3.28 | 53 | 632 | -256 | 1427 |
| Mount_Pleasant | 84 | 54 | 71 | +4 | 0.39 | 2 | 14.31 | +0.45 | 53 | 957 | +163 | 1831 |
| Pittsburgh_Intl | 87 | 55 | 74 | +3 | 0.66 | 1 | 13.06 | +1.83 | 49 | 1129 | +83 | 2026 |
| Rector | 86 | 50 | 71 | +4 | 0.68 | 1 | 14.85 | +0.99 | 46 | 942 | +148 | 1809 |
| Waynesburg | 86 | 52 | 72 | +3 | 0.17 | 4 | 16.89 | +4.84 | 53 | 1010 | +57 | 1899 |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Biglerville | 90 | 60 | 75 | +2 | 0.40 | 4 | 18.43 | +7.20 | 61 | 1055 | -171 | 1929 |
| Everett | 88 | 55 | 73 | +3 | 0.10 | 1 | 16.30 | +5.35 | 55 | 917 | -39 | 1776 |
| Hanover | 91 | 59 | 75 | +2 | 0.34 | 2 | 14.89 | +3.66 | 47 | 1066 | -160 | 1938 |
| Shippensburg | 92 | 60 | 77 | +4 | 0.03 | 1 | 16.23 | +4.95 | 48 | 1132 | -95 | 2013 |
| South_Mountain | 86 | 55 | 71 | +2 | 0.05 | 1 | 20.31 | +8.78 | 52 | 815 | -164 | 1633 |
| York_AP | 91 | 58 | 75 | +3 | 0.02 | 2 | 13.66 | +1.30 | 52 | 1079 | -149 | 1951 |
| SOUTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Green_Lane | 97 | 59 | 78 | +6 | 0.29 | 1 | 16.96 | +5.14 | 46 | 1119 | +62 | 1993 |
| Hamburg | 93 | 60 | 75 | +5 | 0.15 | 1 | 14.60 | +0.21 | 48 | 1017 | +71 | 1875 |
| Hopewell | 91 | 60 | 76 | +2 | 0.47 | 3 | 14.80 | +2.45 | 46 | 963 | -327 | 1805 |
| Lancaster_AP | 91 | 60 | 76 | +3 | 0.14 | 1 | 13.06 | +0.80 | 45 | 1054 | -70 | 1921 |
| Neshaminy_Falls | 93 | 61 | 76 | +4 | 0.03 | 2 | 14.05 | +0.57 | 48 | 1087 | -33 | 1950 |
| New_Holland | 94 | 61 | 76 | +4 | 0.26 | 3 | 16.57 | +4.31 | 49 | 1036 | -88 | 1897 |
| Philadelphia | 95 | 69 | 80 | +5 | 0.28 | 2 | 14.79 | +2.86 | 41 | 1337 | +19 | 2232 |
| Philadelphia_NE | 94 | 64 | 78 | +3 | 0.06 | 3 | 14.16 | +2.23 | 45 | 1184 | -134 | 2061 |
| Reading_AP | 93 | 59 | 76 | +4 | 0.15 | 2 | 12.97 | -0.36 | 48 | 1091 | -1 | 1953 |
| Valley_Forge_Na | 92 | 57 | 75 | +0 | 0.07 | 2 | 16.20 | +3.85 | 45 | 971 | -319 | 1822 |
| Willow_Grove | 92 | 61 | 76 | +4 | 0.13 | 1 | 11.27 | -2.21 | 39 | 1085 | -35 | 1947 |

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) and Pan Evap in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Copyright 2003: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

INTERNET REPORTERS' COMMENTS, By County:

*Reporters are from Extension Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service,
Farm Service Agency, farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

"Off and on nuisance rains dampen hopes of having a good haymaking week. Some parts of the county were spared, but overall there was a lot of hay that has gotten wet. The corn fields have taken off with the hot weather and the color of the corn looks good. The upcoming week is still calling for a chance of rain for the next three days."

- Ron McCorkle, Crawford County

"The dry conditions have been favorable for harvesting hay and for those who are spraying. The weather is excellent for corn to grow and soybean."

- Thomas Tanner, Forrest County

"Haymaking is in full swing this week. Corn looks good and is growing fast with the hot nights. Regrowth of alfalfa coming back quickly. Most haylage is done being made."

- David Stratton, Cameron County

"What a difference a week makes. Lots of sunshine and high temperatures. Hay is drying quickly. Baling activity is rampant around the county. Silos are getting full of haylage. Corn crop growth has improved but without moisture and these hot temperatures, could limit growth potential. Some fields were planted just a week ago. Second cutting of alfalfa has good growth while oats and barley are starting to dry down. Most grain fields received adequate moisture during critical growing times. Should be ready for grain at the end of the month with dry weather. A small rain shower would benefit corn crops right about now. All field work is commencing."

- Pamela Barnes, Tioga County

"The corn was starting to role up due to drought stress this week until we received 2+ inches of rain, in an hour storm Sunday night. That should keep the corn happy for a week."

- Andrew Kimmel, Armstrong County

"A good week for field work and growing crops. Lots of much needed sunshine."

- Dick Decker, Centre County

"Another good week of field work. Hay harvest continuing to get caught up. Still lots of late harvested grass hay made. Will not be a good year for "quality" grass hay harvest across the region. Corn entering the jointing stage and rapidly increasing in height. A lot of poor stands of corn due to slug problems very evident. Barley harvest finishing up and wheat harvest about to begin this week."

- Paul H. Craig, Dauphin County

"Still having hard time to make hay, ground still wet in spots and spotty thunderstorms."

- M. K., Huntington County

"In some places corn is now starting to curl in the heat of the afternoon. First cutting hay fields are being harvested rapidly now. New seeding alfalfa looks good. Some spots where crops have drown out."

- Greg Hostetter, Juniata County

"Lack of water to the soil is now a problem. The ground is very dry and the corn leaves are starting to roll. We need a good rain to stimulate the growth."

- Viola Pfleegor, Northumberland County

"Finally to the point where we could use some rain. Final corn and soybeans being planted. Barley is being harvested and wheat will soon be ready. Both first and second hay cuttings are being harvested."

- John Lohr, Westmoreland County

"Hot, dry week allowed for catching up in field work. Some fields dried enough to finish planting corn for silage and soybeans. Otherwise fields are being planted to sorghum. Good week for harvesting Barley. Almost all of the barley was harvested this week. Hay making was the best it has been all season and quality of hay for some was excellent. No damaging storms to affect the fruit crops. Peaches and apples look to be good."

- Thomas Kerr, Franklin County

"Disease is going to 'hammer' wheat quality. We are seeing some decent hay yields. Quality is not as depressed as expected."

- Russ McLucas, Fulton County

"Warm weather and sunlight helped crops put on extra growth this week. Some corn fields are showing a shortness of moisture probably more due to the denseness of the soil due to early heavy rains and the lack of root growth during the rainy weather."

- Bob Anderson, Lancaster County



PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 6, 2003

| Crop | Current Week | Last Year | 5-Year Average |
|---|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | | |
| Corn, height (inches) | 26 | 35 | 34 |
| Barley, yellow | 100 | 100 | 99 |
| Barley, ripe | 93 | 96 | 91 |
| Barley, harvested | 80 | 86 | 83 |
| Winter wheat, yellow | 82 | 98 | 95 |
| Winter wheat, ripe | 11 | 80 | 63 |
| Oats, headed | 82 | 86 | 89 |
| Oats, yellow | 5 | 40 | 37 |
| Soybeans, planted | 84 | 98 | 97 |
| Soybeans, emerged | 72 | 94 | 95 |
| Tobacco, transplanted | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Alfalfa, 1 st cutting | 90 | 95 | 95 |
| Alfalfa, 2 nd cutting | 23 | 56 | 48 |
| Timothy clover, 1 st cutting | 72 | 84 | 81 |

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 6, 2003

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|---------------------|----------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | <i>Percent</i> | | | | |
| Corn | 4 | 9 | 28 | 45 | 14 |
| Winter wheat | 3 | 8 | 43 | 36 | 10 |
| Oats | 1 | 4 | 39 | 50 | 6 |
| Soybeans | 3 | 3 | 30 | 54 | 10 |
| Quality of hay made | 2 | 9 | 38 | 37 | 14 |
| Pasture conditions | 1 | 9 | 28 | 47 | 15 |
| Peaches | 0 | 0 | 6 | 94 | 0 |
| Apples | 0 | 0 | 8 | 91 | 1 |

PENNSYLVANIA AGRICULTURAL
 STATISTICS SERVICE
 2301 North Cameron Street, Room G-19
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9405
)))))))
 OFFICIAL BUSINESS
 PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

PRESORTED
 FIRST-CLASS MAIL
 POSTAGE & FEES PAID
 USDA
 PERMIT NO. G-38